**Smuggling of Gold and Narcotic Drugs**

2567. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the major commodities including narcotic drugs and gold which were smuggled into the country, the main sources of their smuggling and the countries through which these reach India;

(b) the estimated quantity of each of the above items which reach India yearly, country-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to curb smuggling effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Available reports indicate that gold, silver, electronic goods etc. continued to be favoured for smuggling into the country by smuggling syndicates operating from Dubai, Hongkong and Singapore. India also continues to be affected by the transit traffic of heroin from across the Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Burma borders for onward clandestine export to Western destinations mainly though Bombay and Delhi Airports. Hashish and ganja have also been reported to be sensitive to smuggling into the country, mainly from Nepal and/or Pakistan.

Since smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not possible to estimate the quantity of each of the above items which reach in India every year from different countries. However, the value/quantity of gold, heroin, hashish and ganja seized in 1989, 1990 and 1991 (upto October, 1991) are given in the table below:

*Value (Rs. in crores)*

| | *1989* | *1990* | *1991** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Gold | Rs. 259.60 (8215 Kgs) | Rs. 192.96 (5721 kgs) | Rs. 156.53 (4269 Kgs) |
| Heroin | 2714 Kgs | 2193 Kgs | 534 Kgs |
| Hashish | 8179 Kgs | 6388 Kgs | 3244 Kgs |
| Ganja | 54463 Kgs | 39090 Kgs | 46158 Kgs |

* Figures are provisional.

(c) The anti-smuggling agencies are on the alert to check the smuggling of the above items. The emerging trends and new modus operandi are being studied and disseminated to the field formations are obtaining better results. Close co-ordination is being maintained between all the agencies such as the Customs, Border Security Force, Coast Guard, Narcotics Control Bureau, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence etc which are concerned with the detection and prevention of smuggling.

**Trishul Missile**

2568. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: